

VZCZCXRO3220
PP RUEHDBU
DE RUEHAH #0179 0401339
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 091339Z FEB 07
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8376
INFO RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 0160
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 0182
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 1848
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0591
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY 0108
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0645
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI PRIORITY 0029
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 0076
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 0013
RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI PRIORITY 0036
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 0351
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0036
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0453

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASHGABAT 000179

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DEPT FOR SCA/CEN (PERRY)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/16/2017

TAGS: [EFIN](#) [IR](#) [KNNP](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [TX](#)

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN AND UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
1737

REF: A. (A) STATE 14071

[1](#)B. (B) ASHGABAT 137

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires, a.i. Jennifer L. Brush for reasons 1.
4 (B) and (D).

1, (C) Charge delivered reftel demarche to Turkmenistan's Foreign Minister Rashit Meredov on February 7. Charge highlighted the USG's sensitivity to Turkmenistan's status as Iran's neighbor, nonetheless she urged the Government of Turkmenistan to respond officially to the demarche. Meredov agreed the issue was complicated, in particular provisions regarding energy cooperation; Iran was Turkmenistan's second largest natural gas customer after Russia and the two countries recently had agreed to increase Turkmenistan's gas exports. Charge again encouraged Meredov to respond to the demarche and said she would try to assist in putting Turkmenistan's response in the appropriate light.

[1](#)2. (C) Noting that delivering a demarche in this manner -- face to face -- was more the international diplomatic norm than Turkmenistan's MFA's fetish with diplomatic notes, and continuing with EUR/ACE Coordinator Adams' recommendation that bilateral relations become less bureaucratic, the Charge said that Meredov should consider the demarche officially delivered even without a diplomatic note. Meredov asked for a note regardless, which was delivered on February 8. Embassy will continue to urge Turkmenistan to respond to this demarche and will encourage visiting Department officials also to raise the issue.
BRUSH